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# A TIN OF MEAT

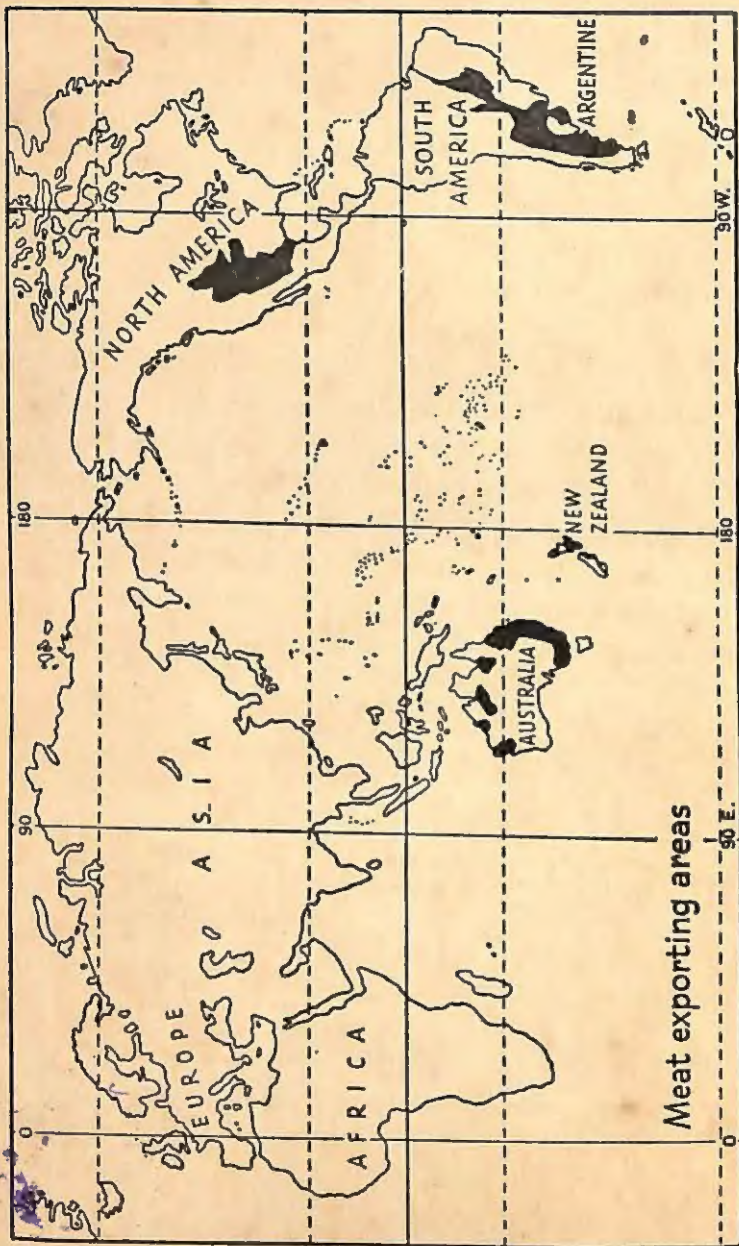
by

GWEN CROSS

## THINGS WE USE

BOOK SIX

LONGMANS



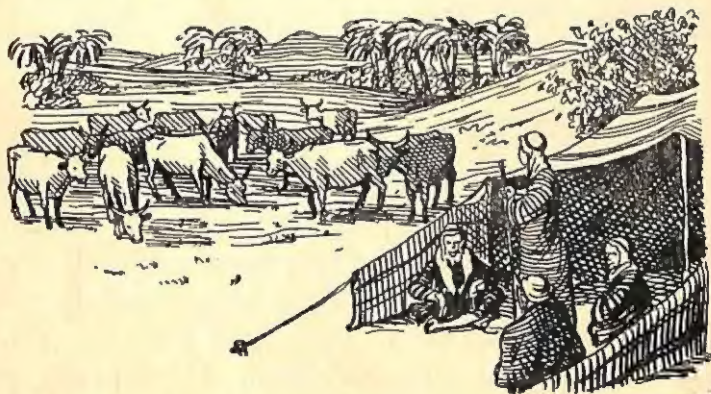
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STATE INSTITUTE

## CHAPTER I

## CATTLE

CATTLE live together in herds. There are many kinds of cattle. Long ago they were all wild. Then men tamed some of them and began to keep herds of tame cattle. Men used their skins for clothes and their meat and milk for food and drink. We read in the Bible that Abraham had many flocks of sheep and herds of cattle. Eastern people who had many cattle lived in tents. They took their tents with them when they went from place to place with their cattle to find new grass.

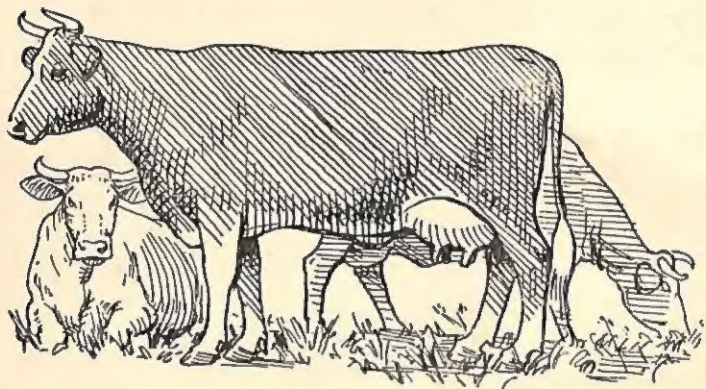


EASTERN PEOPLE WITH THEIR HERD OF CATTLE



## A TIN OF MEAT

Cattle eat grass. They do not eat bushes and trees like goats. A cow uses her tongue and her lips to take a bunch of grass. Then her bottom teeth at the front press the grass against the top of her mouth. This is very hard bone. A cow has no top teeth.



COWS WITH HORNS

She eats the grass quickly. She has more than one stomach. When the first stomach is full, she lies down to chew the cud. The cud is the grass from the first stomach. She brings it up again to her mouth. She chews it slowly and well, and then swallows it again. It goes to another stomach.

## CATTLE

The mother is called a cow. The father is called a bull. The baby is called a calf. Both cows and bulls have horns. The horns of a bull are longer than those of a cow of the same kind. A calf is born without horns, but they soon grow. They are hard, strong and pointed. An angry cow or bull is very dangerous. It will run quickly at a man and throw him in the air on its horns.



HOOFS OF COW, GOAT AND HORSE

Most cattle have short hair, but some have long hair. The little, brown cattle in the Highlands of Scotland have long hair and long horns. Cattle have hoofs. Hoofs are very hard. The hoofs of cattle are divided into two parts like the hoofs of goats. Horses' hoofs are not divided. They need iron on their hoofs if they run on hard roads. Cattle never need this.

## A TIN OF MEAT

### THINGS TO DO

1. Watch, if you can, a cow and a goat eating grass. Notice that the cow uses her tongue and her lips.
2. Look at cows, goats, and horses, or pictures of them. Which of them have horns, a mane, divided hoofs, long tails. Write the answers.

### QUESTIONS

1. How does a cow take a bunch of grass?
  2. Where are a cow's teeth?
  3. What does "chew the cud" mean? Copy the sentence that tells you this. Name two animals that chew the cud.
  4. Of what animals are these the young?  
*kitten, puppy, kid, calf, chicken, duckling.*
- A. Which of these sentences about a bull are true?
- It is a gentle animal.
  - It is weak.
  - It has horns.
  - It gives milk.
  - It is a dangerous animal.
  - Men eat the flesh.
- B. Write the plural of these sentences :
- (a) The cow has a calf.
  - (b) The hoof is divided into two parts.
- C. Write the opposites of :
- wild      top      slowly      long      weak*
- Then write sentences using three of the words you have written.



## CHAPTER II

### A CATTLE FARM

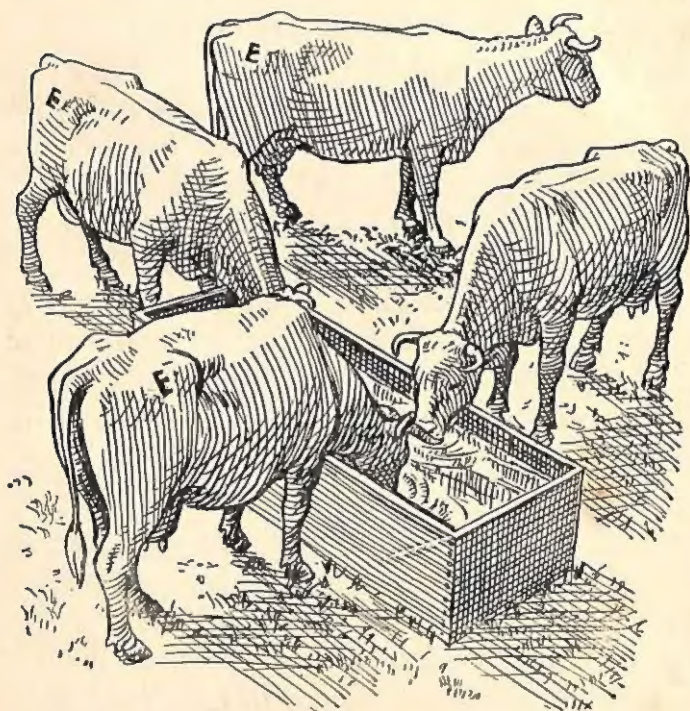
MEN get much milk and meat from good cattle when they live in a country that has enough rain. If the grass is covered with snow in winter, the cattle must live in sheds. It is difficult for a farmer to have enough sheds for a very big herd of cattle. So the biggest cattle farms are in countries where the cattle can live out in the fields all the year. There are millions of cattle on the big farms in New Zealand, Australia and America.

More than half the cattle in Australia are in Queensland. There are more than 6,000,000 cattle in that State. Two of the cattle farms in Queensland are each more than 12,000 square miles in area.

Many men work on a cattle farm. They ride on horses and drive the cattle to new grass. In some countries dogs help them. In Australia and America the men must watch for fires because, in the hot summer, the dry grass sometimes catches fire. A bush fire spreads for many miles, burning grass, trees and houses. Everyone fears a bush fire. It is very important not to let a fire begin, because it spreads so quickly.

## A TIN OF MEAT

The men must see that the cattle have enough water. Sometimes in summer there are many weeks without any rain. The farmers make dams across the valleys and rivers so that the water cannot flow away. Some farmers make very deep wells. Men get a lot of water from these wells. They pump the water into pipes and drains. These go to tanks in the fields that are far from the rivers. The water

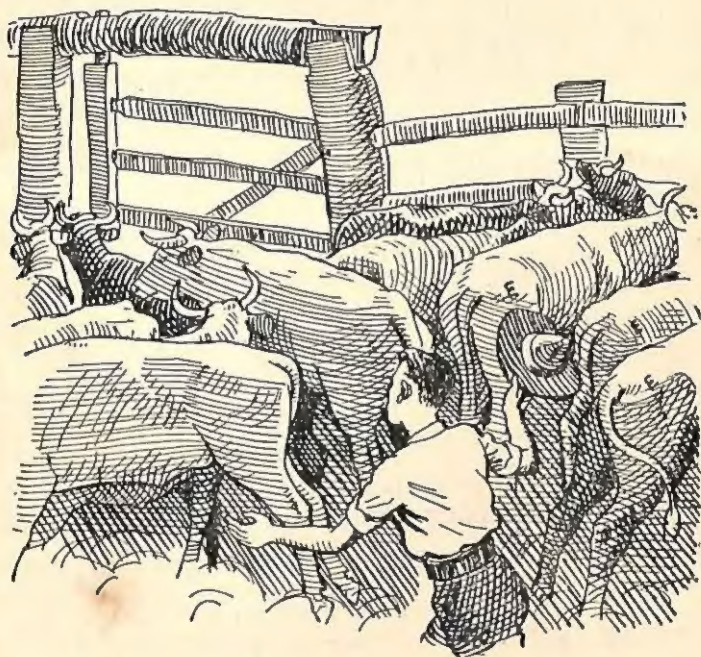


CATTLE DRINKING



## A CATTLE FARM

goes from the tanks into long, narrow tubs where the cattle drink. If there is not enough water in the tanks the men drive the cattle to another place. The herdsmen on a cattle farm ride thousands of miles in a year.



A HERDSMAN WITH HIS CATTLE

The cattle belonging to each farm are marked with the owner's sign. If they stray from one farm to another the farmer knows which cattle are his.

## A TIN OF MEAT

### THINGS TO DO

1. Try to find pictures of a cattle farm and the herdsmen. If you may, cut out the pictures and paste them in your book. Copy under them a sentence that tells you about the herdsmen's work.
2. Look at a map of Australia. Find Queensland. Measure with your ruler from Cape York to the New South Wales boundary. Look at the scale of miles. How many miles is it?

Find the area of your own country or province or district. How many times larger or smaller is it than the two cattle farms in Queensland?

### QUESTIONS

1. What State in Australia has most cattle?
  2. Name two ways in which farmers get water for their cattle.
  3. Read again paragraphs 4 and 5. Write three sentences to tell you three kinds of work the herdsmen do.
  4. In what kind of country are the biggest cattle farms?
- A. Write in words 11,000,000, 120,000, 50,000.
- B. Add -er and -est to these words to make new words :
- |               |            |             |              |             |
|---------------|------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| <i>strong</i> | <i>big</i> | <i>long</i> | <i>quick</i> | <i>slow</i> |
|---------------|------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
- C. Write these words in your own language :
- |               |                     |              |              |
|---------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|
| <i>tongue</i> | <i>dangerous</i>    | <i>herd</i>  | <i>horns</i> |
| <i>sign</i>   | <i>catches fire</i> | <i>twice</i> | <i>lips</i>  |

## CHAPTER III

### A CATTLE DRIVE

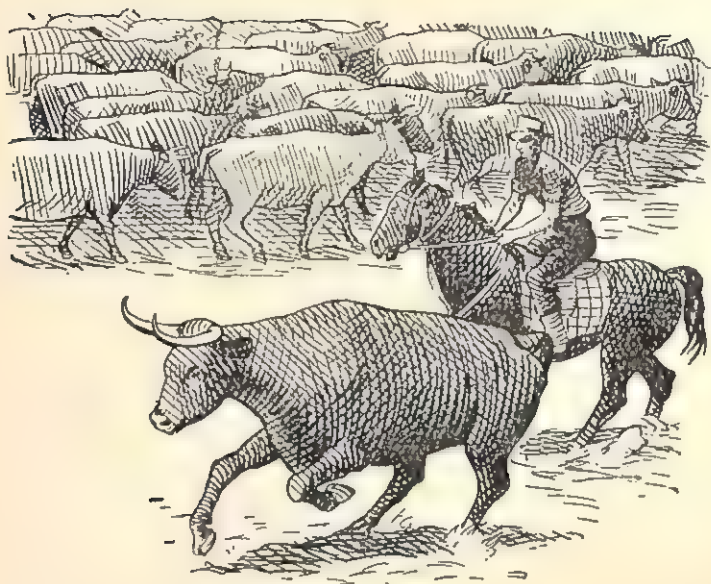
IF a cattle farm is near a milk, butter or cheese factory the farmer will keep his cattle chiefly for their milk. He will send the milk every day to the factories to be put into tins or to make butter or cheese. In New Zealand many farmers do this because the farms are not far from the factories. New Zealand exports more butter than meat.

In big countries like Australia and America some farms are hundreds of miles from the factories. The farmer cannot send his milk to the factory. Farmers in these countries keep cattle chiefly for meat. The biggest cattle farms for meat are in Argentine, Australia and the United States. For many years Argentine exported more tins of meat than any other country.

When the farmer sees that some of his cattle are big and fat, he writes to a man who buys cattle for a factory. The buyer comes to see the herd. He tells the farmer how much money he will give for them. Then the buyer sends drivers to the farm to take the herd to the factory.



## A TIN OF MEAT



DRIVING CATTLE TO THE FACTORY

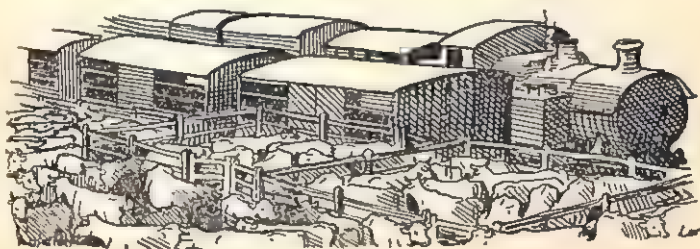
The journey to the factory may be several hundred miles. It may be a week or two before the herd can arrive there. The drivers often take a herd of several hundred cattle. They must not drive them quickly or the cattle will become thin. The drivers let them rest often. There are places near the roads where the cattle can eat good grass. The drivers ride on each side of the herd. If something makes the herd afraid they will begin to run.

## A CATTLE DRIVE

If hundreds of cattle run about wildly it is very difficult to collect them and make them quiet again.

The buyer always wants to find drivers who have done this work for a long time. The older men take a few young men with them to teach them how to take care of a herd on these long drives. Some of the best drivers in Australia are the Aborigines. These are the dark people who lived in Australia before any white people came there. There are not many of them in that big continent.

If there is a railway near the cattle farm the farmer may send his cattle to the factory by train, or he may send them by aeroplane.



A CATTLE TRAIN

Sometimes now a meat killing factory is put near the cattle farms. Then there is no long cattle drive to the factory. Planes carry the carcasses<sup>1</sup> for meat quickly to meat factories.

<sup>1</sup> Carcase. Whole or half the killed animal before it is cut into pieces.



## A TIN OF MEAT

### THINGS TO DO

1. Argentine is in South America. Find it on a map. What are the names of a big river there and of a port at its mouth? In what direction would a ship travel that takes food from Argentine to England? Name the oceans and seas it would cross.
2. Try to find a picture of a cattle drive or of meat carried by train or plane to the factories. If you may, cut it out and paste it in your book. Copy under it any sentence you like from paragraph 4. Print under the picture the name of the country.

### QUESTIONS

1. Name two countries where farmers keep cattle for meat.
  2. Name a country where farmers keep cattle for milk.
  3. Why would it help to carry meat carcasses to factory or ship by train or plane?
  4. What kind of drivers does the buyer want?
- A. A man who drives cattle is a driver.

Finish these sentences :

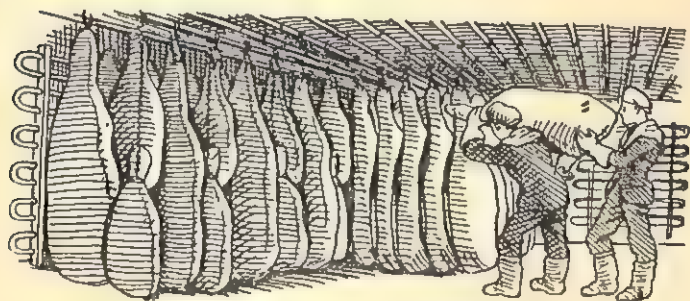
- (a) A man who buys cattle is a . . .
  - (b) A man who sells cattle is the . . .
  - (c) A man who rides a horse is a . . .
- B. We call a lot of men together a crowd.  
What do we call a lot of :
- (a) cattle
  - (b) sheep
  - (c) birds
- C. Find the right answer :
- The drivers drive the herds slowly because :
- (a) They are lazy.
  - (b) The cattle are tired.
  - (c) They do not want the cattle to become thin.
  - (d) They do not want to get to the factory quickly.



## CHAPTER IV

### IN THE MEAT FACTORY

MANY meat factories have two parts. In one part meat is put into tins. In the other part meat is frozen in cold store rooms. Both the tinned meat and the frozen meat are exported. Governments send men to look at the factories. All the workers in the factory, all the rooms, machines and tins must be very clean. If the factories were dirty the meat would soon be bad.



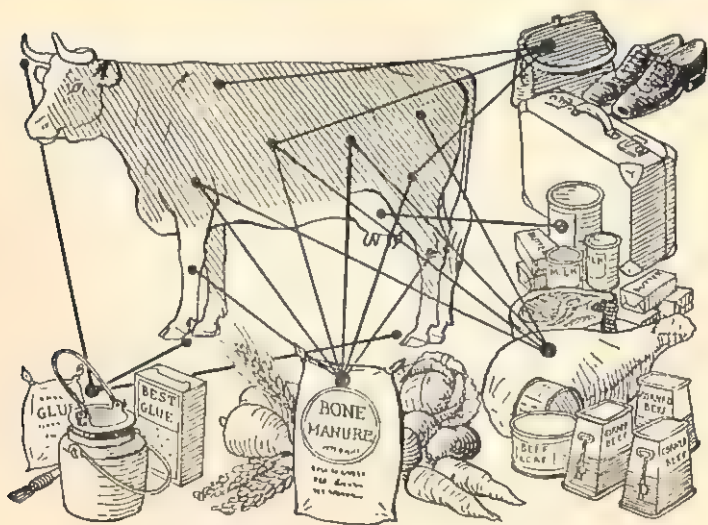
MEAT IN A COLD STORE ROOM

When cattle arrive at a factory, the animal doctor looks at them to see that they have no sickness. If bad meat from a sick animal is put into tins it will make people very ill. The animals must be healthy.

## A TIN OF MEAT

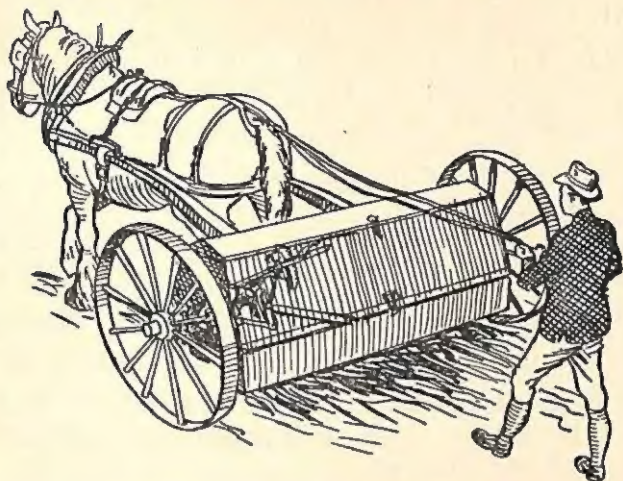
Governments make laws that men must kill animals quickly so that they do not feel pain. The cattle walk slowly one by one in a long, dark, narrow path in the factory. The path goes up a little hill. When an animal arrives at the top of the hill, suddenly a very bright electric light flashes in its eyes. It throws up its head in surprise. Immediately a big knife kills it. It happens so quickly that the animal does not feel any pain at all.

In the factory every part of the animal is used. The skins are cleaned and dried. Men make leather from them. They make glue from horns and hoofs.



### THINGS OBTAINED FROM A COW

## IN THE MEAT FACTORY



PUTTING BONE MANURE ON THE SOIL

They grind the bones and make manure for the soil. This is called bone manure.

Tins are filled with meat and cooked in boiling water for a long time to kill all the bacteria. When the meat is well cooked, men shut the little hole with solder as we read in the book about tins of salmon.

Girls stick coloured paper round the tins. On each paper there is the name of the meat and the factory. Beef is the flesh of cattle. Mutton is the flesh of sheep. Pork is the flesh of pigs. Europe imports millions of tins of meat each year.



## A TIN OF MEAT

### THINGS TO DO

1. Draw a tin of meat. Print on it the name of the tinned meat you like best.
2. Look at a map. From what countries would people in the following places most likely buy tinned meat :

*New Guinea    Alaska    Peru    Uganda*

### QUESTIONS

1. What is leather made from?
  2. What is bone manure. What is it used for?
  3. What laws do Governments make about the killing of cattle in a factory?
  4. Why must everything in the factory be very clean?
- A. Finish these sentences :
- The flesh of cattle is called .....
- The flesh of pigs is called ....
- The flesh of sheep is called ....
- B. Write these sentences in the order in which the work is done :
- The tins are filled with meat.
- A big knife kills the animal.
- The animal walks slowly up a path.
- The tins are cooked in boiling water.
- A bright light flashes in its eyes.
- The path is very dark and narrow.
- C. Find in paragraph 3 the present time of these verbs :
- went            flashed            walked            made            threw*

You may find these words difficult. When you meet them in the book try to think out for yourself what they mean. If you cannot do this, ask your teacher for help.

<i>Nouns</i>		<i>Adjectives</i>	<i>Verbs</i>
Aborigines	hoof	dangerous	chew
beef	journey	electric	flash
buyer	leather	frozen	
cud	mane	important	
driver	mutton		
glue	pork		
herd	stomach		
horn	tongue		



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23. Silk
24. Leather

